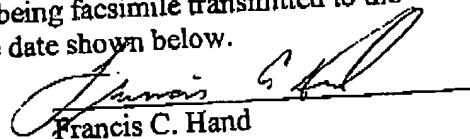


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Francis C. Hand

JAN 23 2006

Art Unit: 1621

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Deborah D. Carr  
Applicant: Peter Moritz, et al.  
Serial No.: 10/706,449  
Filed: 12 November 2003  
Title: Method for the Esterification of a Fatty Acid

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Box PCT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the application as follows: